



# Oakley Infant School



## Newsletter

Autumn Term: Issue 4

30 Sept 2025



Strive, thrive and achieve together



Dear Parents,

Thank you to the parents who joined us for the Key Stage 1 Information evenings last week. This evening it is the Year R evening in the hall at 7pm. Please come in through the main entrance.

As has been the case for a number of years the turn out for these events has been disappointing. Following the Covid lock down parents were very keen to resume face to face meetings but I wonder if an online version would reach more people. With that in mind I am going to ask the office to do a poll to try to ascertain how we can ensure information gets to as many people as possible, that would be my goal.

With the newsletter today Year 1 and Year 2 parents will receive the presentation and the support materials the staff spoke about during the meeting. We do always share but it does mean more when you have heard a teacher speak about it.

Tomorrow evening the appointment slots will open up for booking on Arbor for Parents' Evening at 6pm. They will be available to book for a week. Then we will pause the booking to review who has booked and who we need to catch up with. Obviously the sooner you book the more likely you will get the slot you would like. If you have more than one child in the school please leave a gap of at least one appointment between each child.

Apple class as per my correspondence last week there is a slight variation of dates for your evenings.

**Niamh Hutchings**  
Headteacher



## INSET Days 2025-2026

24 Oct 2025

5 Jan 2026

13 Feb 2026

26 June 2026

## Article 28

**A right to an education.**

## Rotary Club Christmas Boxes

Please give any donations to your child's teacher, I have included the slide with the things Rotary Club suggest go into the boxes with this newsletter.

If you would like to fill your own gift box as a family please come and collect a box from the school Office.

## Reading

Harvey Bear is back! Following the Information Evenings for Year 1 and 2 and a reminder that children should read **at least 4 times a week** we will do a class count this week and give Harvey Bear out at Celebration Assembly on Friday.

## School Library

The library will be open after school on Thursday for you to share a story with your child. Please pop along to see Mrs Mears.

## Inset Day Cover

Please remember there is cover for the INSET day which is being provided by Active Me on 24 October. Please use the QR code on the poster to book a space.

## School Census- 2 October 2025

We are fast approaching School Census day. This is an important day for setting a school budget. Many calculations are made based on this day in October including funding for the **Universal Free Infant Lunch**. Of course you may think we are funded for each child but it is not that simple. We are funded for the year on whoever has a school dinner on 2 October. So, as you can see it is important that as many children as possible have a dinner on Census day, otherwise the school has to fund the 'Free Infant Lunch' from the normal budget next year.

**As a result there will be a change to the menu to try to hit the highest number possible.**

On this census there is also an audit of Pupil Premium children. Again if children go on at a later date we do not receive any funding. So I would urge everyone to follow the link to see if you are entitled to the payment. <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>

We are also grateful if you can make us aware if your child is from a military family. Please email the office to confirm or if there has been a change in your child's status, please let us know.

## Rotary Christmas Shoebox Collection

Once again we will be taking part in the Christmas Appeal from the Rotary Club.

We have noticed that the number of boxes being completed has been reducing over the last few years and this year the deadline from the Rotary Club is early. So, we feel that a more collaborative approach is the way forwards so that more people can be included without feeling overwhelmed.

Therefore, we are going to ask year groups for donations of certain items which will be collated in school by the School Voice children and then sorted ready to be sent.

We do not need anything to be donated before 22 September so please have a think about what you would like to donate, there is no hurry.

Year Group	Donations
Year R	Toothbrush and toothpaste, pencils, notebook, warm hat, small toy car, small doll.
Year 1	Soap and flannel/sponge, crayons, colouring book, socks, bouncy ball, yo-yo, small building or construction set/toy
Year 2	Hairbrush, hair accessories, felt tip pens, picture book, gloves, small soft toy, skipping rope

**Please donate something from the selection for your child's year group so that we get a selection of things to make the boxes exciting for the children receiving them.**

**Please make sure that your item will fit in a shoebox and please do not donate any food items, things that require batteries, liquids, war related items, medicines, large toys or clothing items or anything sharp.**

**Donation Dates- 22 September- 8 October 2025**

## **Autumn Term Events**

Friends will be hosting a **Movie Night** on 16 October after school. The event will run from the end of the school day until 5pm. A poster is attached for information.

Friends events are paid for via the Arbor system and Movie Night will be available from tomorrow along with the Parents' Evening appointments.

## **Raffle prizes**

Friends have already started to think about the Christmas Fair. If you or anyone you know would be able to donate any raffle prizes for the Christmas Fair, Friends would love to hear from you.

If you work for a company who provide match funding, again Friends would love to hear from you and support the process with your employer.

## **Friends AGM- 2 October**

Friends AGM will be held this Thursday evening in Room 2, the Year 1 side of the school where Breakfast and After School club are based. Please come along to find out about last years' events and to help shape what Friends looks like going forwards.

## **Open Afternoon- 10 October**

On Friday 10 October at 2pm we will holding the first Open Afternoon of the school year. This is an opportunity to come into school to complete activities with your child. There will not be a Celebration Assembly on 10 October to allow time for the activities.

Unfortunately we do not have the space to accommodate siblings, either younger or older, but encourage one adult to come and join with each child. This does not need to be a parent and could be a grandparent, aunty, uncle or anyone your child would be glad to see.

## **Year R – Junk modelling**

We are currently running low on junk modelling supplies in Year R. If you have any clean recycling items (e.g. cardboard tubes, small boxes, plastic containers, lids, etc.), please send them in with your child and hand them to their class teacher.

## New Year R Intake- September 2026

Well, unbelievably it is that time of year again where we start to look towards the admissions process for Year R in September 2026. The platform will open for applications on 1 November but we are now starting to book tours for parents to look around our lovely school. The dates are on the school website and I would ask everyone to remind family, friends and neighbours that if they have a child due to start next year that they must apply for a place. Unless you are in the school system it is sometimes missed by people.

I would like to remind the Year 2 parents that you have to make an application for Key Stage 2. This is done on the same platform as Year R and it also opens on 1 November.

## Harvest Foodbank Collection

This week we have been thinking about Harvest time in assembly and would be grateful for any food donations for the foodbank. Please hand any donations to the class teacher or the office.

Currently the food bank **DO NOT** need the following- pasta, rice, beans, pulses and cereals but they **DO** need **tinned fruit or vegetables, squash, powdered milk, household cleaners, tinned spaghetti hoops, cup a soup and UHT fruit juices**. Please check their website for an up to date list.

## Research Project

Today I have included some information being carried out by a member of our community for a Masters degree. As part of the research she will be conducting interviews with staff and some group discussions with some children. I have included her information letter and consent form which is an opt out.

Please let the school know if you would rather your child did not take part in any short group discussions. She will obviously only be conducting group discussions with a small number of children across the age ranges, the likelihood of being chosen is slim. However it would be useful to know if you **DO NOT** wish your child to be considered.

Any research collected as part of the project will only be available to the researcher and the University tutor.

Thank you for your help.

## Cooking Money

Please continue to send in your child's cooking contribution so we are able to start purchasing ingredients so we can get going.. We ask for a donation of £1 in a named envelope for the children to take part  
Thank you.

## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event
<b>30 September</b>	Year R Information evening- 7pm
<b>2 October</b>	Friends AGM- all welcome- <b>see poster sent last week</b>
<b>W/C 29 Sept</b>	Harvest Foodbank Collection
<b>3 October</b>	Nasal flu spray- run by school nursing service
<b>8 October</b>	Deadline for Rotary Shoebox Collection Donations
<b>13 October</b>	Bags 2 School collection- from 8-9am at the bottom of the school drive
<b>8 October</b>	Individual Photos and sibling photos- details will follow
<b>10 October</b>	Open Afternoon- Book Focus (NO CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY)
<b>16 October</b>	Movie Night
<b>20 October</b>	Bikeability- YR- details to follow
<b>20 October</b>	Friends Bake Off- details to follow
<b>21 October</b>	Book Fair in school- sale after school
<b>21 and 23 October</b>	Parents' Evening- appointments will follow via Arbor (Apple class will have separate arrangements)
<b>24 October</b>	INSET Day